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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Geoffrey B. Rhoads

Serial No.: 09/916,207

Filed: July 25, 2001

Examiner:

For: HIDING ENCRYPTED MESSAGES IN

INFORMATION CARRIERS

Date: April 10, 2002

Art Unit 2621 Confirmation No. 8083 the Deliver

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER AND THE DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO AS BEING ATTACHED OR ENCLOSED HEREWITH ARE BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE ON April 10, 2002, AS FIRST-CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, DC 20231.

Steven W. Stewart
Attorney for Applicant(s)

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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Applicants submit herewith information of which they are aware, and which they believe may be material to the examination of the application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. The information is listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and copies are enclosed.

The attached Form PTO-1449 lists information previously cited in parent applications 09/338,995, filed June 24, 1999, and 08/951,858, filed 10/16/97 (US Patent 6,026,193). Applicant relies on these applications to establish an earlier effective filing date of this application under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Therefore, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d), applicant has listed this information without supplying copies of the information itself.

The submission of information on the attached Form PTO-1449 is not intended as an admission that any such information constitutes prior art against the claims of the application under examination. Applicants do not waive any right to take any appropriate action to antedate or otherwise remove any information from the attached Form PTO-1449.

No fee is required since this document is being submitted prior to the date of a first Office action.

If a first Office action on the merits was mailed prior to the mailing of this Information Disclosure Statement, please charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1071 any fees that may be required for considering this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

Date: April 10, 2002

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

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